



Office of the Chairman

National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

November 15, 2013

The Honorable Henry Waxman
US House of Representatives
2204 Rayburn House Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Waxman:

Thank you for your October 2, 2013, letter regarding the accident that occurred on September 29, 2013, at Santa Monica Airport. I also appreciated the opportunity to discuss this accident investigation with you personally.

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) dispatched an investigator shortly after learning about the accident. As you know, this occurred just days before the government shutdown. Our investigator remained on scene to collect the perishable evidence, including interviewing witnesses, then was placed in furlough status until funding resumed. I believe safety was compromised by stopping this investigation and many others, not to mention the accidents that occurred that we did not launch to, during the shutdown.

The NTSB is working to complete this investigation as quickly as possible so that the community can better understand the circumstances of this accident. Our [preliminary report](#) has been issued and is available on our website, and I will let you know when the final report is complete. At this early state of the investigation, no issues related to the operation of the airport have been identified.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact our director of Government Affairs, Ms. Jane Terry, at (202) 314-6218 or jane.terry@ntsb.gov.

Sincerely,